**Supplement- Interview Guide.** The questions below represent the semi-structured interview guide. Due to the use of a semi-structured interview format, not every topic was addressed in every interview; this afforded the flexibility to address interviewees’ priorities and their specific experiences related to CBMs that were not captured in the interview guide questions.

**Interviewee Experience**

1. Have you worked directly with BWC Confidence-Building Measures, such as compiling your government’s CBM submission or analyzing data from other CBM submissions? If so, in what capacity?

**CBM Purpose & Value**

1. What do you view as the value or purpose of CBMs?
2. What are your overall impressions of CBMs? How well do they serve the purpose you just described?
   1. How well do CBMs increase transparency regarding states parties’ biological activities?
   2. What is the incentive or motivation for states parties to submit CBMs?
3. What do you view as the value or purpose of broader information exchange in the context of the BWC?

**CBM Forms & Processes**

1. Are the current CBM forms and instructions sufficiently clear and usable, including with respect to translation in your national language?
2. Do CBM forms request the right kinds of data? Are there data missing from the current CBM forms that you think would be beneficial to include?
3. What is the process for states parties to compile and submit CBMs? Is this appropriate?
   1. Can states parties easily navigate the processes necessary to complete and submit a CBM?
   2. How much effort is required for states parties to compile relevant information, complete the forms, and submit CBMs?
   3. How does the BWC CBM process compare to reporting or declarations for other nonproliferation, arms control, or disarmament treaties?
   4. Is the timing or timeline for CBM submissions appropriate?

**CBM Submissions & Data**

1. What do you or your organization do with CBM data?
   1. Are you able to utilize CBMs submitted in other languages?
2. Are you able to track states parties’ CBM trends from year to year to identify new developments or changes from previous reports?
   1. If a state party submits an annual CBM, does that give you increased assurance that it is adhering to its treaty obligations? Does the quality or degree of detail provided in the submission affect this?
   2. What other factors affect how you view a state party’s CBM data?
   3. Are these factors consistently evaluated and weighed equally across states parties?
   4. Have CBM submissions helped identify any concerning activities in the past or resolved uncertainties or ambiguities regarding certain biological activities?

**Barriers, Challenges & Opportunities for Improvement**

1. What are the biggest challenges and limitations regarding CBMs, including with respect to:
   1. States parties’ participation
   2. The quality, completeness, or accuracy of CBM submissions
   3. The accessibility and use of CBM data
   4. The overall value of CBMs
2. What steps should states parties take to improve CBMs?
3. Are there particular CBM-related proposals that you would be interested in pursuing in more detail?
4. What resources are needed to improve CBMs, including funding, personnel, expertise, and other support?
   1. How do you view past efforts to update CBMs? Have past updates to CBM forms and processes increased their value?
   2. What are the current barriers to improving CBMs? What is standing in the way of efforts to strengthen the existing CBM system?
   3. Is the process to update CBM forms and processes sufficient?
   4. Should there be a set schedule or triggers for initiating future updates to CBMs?
   5. Do you think that CBMs could be—or should be—replaced with a new transparency mechanism?

**Other**

1. Beyond CBMs, what other mechanisms could improve information sharing and transparency among BWC states parties?